

Pres. GOLDWATER, BARRY
COMMUNIST CHINA
SCIENCE + TECHNOLOGY

*noted by
D.C.G.*

WZ

20 October 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Statement by Senator Goldwater

1. This memorandum is for your information.
2. The NBC-TV Network news program at 7:00 p.m. EDT on Saturday, 17 October, carried a film clip of Senator Goldwater campaigning in Ohio. Speaking of Communist China's nuclear device, the Republican presidential candidate said:

"I don't want to be a crystal ball gazer, but unless she has help, I think she's at least 25 years away from any device that will get this head from the launching pad to the target. It was not a bomb, it was a device probably similar to the one that we exploded back in the Forties, down at White Sands, New Mexico. We knew a year ago in the Preparedness Subcommittee, of which I am a member, that about this time -- and I was amazed at the accuracy of the CIA's information -- that about this time in October of 1964, the Chinese would do this. Now I'm not overly impressed with this because I have been convinced for a long time that almost anybody can make an atomic device, if you can get a little piece of fissionable material. I don't think you can make it in your kitchens yet, and you can't get do-it-yourself kits, but the fact that China has exploded a device doesn't mean by any means that tomorrow she has become a nuclear threat."
3. The comment about being "amazed at the accuracy of the CIA's information" has so far not appeared in the newspapers from several major cities around the country screened here.



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Public Affairs Officer

cc: DDCI
Exec.Dir.-Compt.